VOL XX No. 5 Naval Hospital, Orlando, Florida May 1994

Alcohol Rehabilitation Department to close

The 1 November 1982 issue of Vital Signs had a headline ... "ARS officially dedicated on 22 October ... " and sadly this issue's headline tells the world that the Alcohol Rehabilitation Department will close 1 June. Their last commencement day was 6 May.

At the time the Alcohol Rehabilitation Service opened in 1982, it was housed on the 3rd floor of the Branch Medical Clinic and had a patient population of 10 active duty members.

In May 1986, the Service went into an inactive period due to manning and logistical problems. In April 1987, the Service re-opened as the Alcohol Rehabilitation Department and was housed in Buildings 3129, 3132, 3233 and 3134 at Naval Hospital. Over the years, the census gradually grew to a maxiumum patient body of 32 consisting of active duty members, active duty dependents, retirees and their dependents.

The staff has steadily grown and includes a Psychiatrist as Department Head, a Psychiatric Nurse as Division Officer, four Military Counselors, six Neuropsychiatry Technicians, a civilian Treatment Coordinator and a civilian Secretary. The average patient census has been 20 patients.

Through the efforts of the staff members who have been assigned at ARS and ARD, almost 3,000 military men and women, retirees and dependents have received assistance in their recovery process.

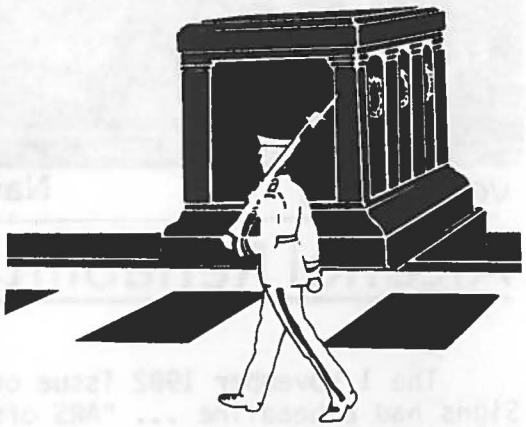
At the ribbon cutting ceremony on 22 October 1982, the ribbon cutters were CAPT Larry Fout, MC, USN, Commanding Officer of NHO, and CAPT James B. Boorstin, MC, USN, the Chief of ARS. Other staff members (from left to right): Mrs. Elaine Billy, Secretary; Mrs. Janet Jowers, Program Director; LT William Miller, NC, Nurse Counselor; CTOC James M. Scott, Military Counselor; and Mr. John E. Brown, Family Alcoholism Counselor.

Closing the door, LCDR Mark S. Cotterell, MC, USNR, Department Head, and Secretary, Mrs. Elaine Billy.

NHO's Martial Arts Champions

ENS Manuel Santiago, NC, USNR, and HM2(SS/PJ) Harold P. Henry, USN, recently returned from North Carolina where they competed at the King of the Mountain Open Martial Arts Tournament. They won 3 First-Place trophies and both won the Tournament's Grand Champion Belts in their divisions.

Memorial Day - 30 May 1994



VITAL SIGNS is published in compliance with NAVPERS P35 (REV. JAN74) and printed by the Navy Publication and Printing Service Branch Office, Orlando, Florida from appropriated funds. Commanding Officer: CAPT R. H. Brant, MSC, US Executive Officer: CAPT Michael E. Kilpatr MC, USN; Public Affairs Officer: LT Marth Dasch, MSC, USN; Editor: Ms M. V. Van den Heuve Photographer: HM2 Dana W. Harrington, USN. Contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the official view of DOD and VITAL SIGNS reserves the right to edit or reject copy to comply with its policies. All copy submitted must reach the Editor's Office, Room M122, Building 503, by noon of the first day of the month. In reprinting material appearing in VITAL SIGNS, appropriate credit must be given.

ARD staff bids adieu

From left to right: LCDR Mark S. Cotterell, MC, USNR; Michael R. Viladesau; HMCS William A. Alexander; Mrs. Elaine Billy; STS2 James B. Phillips; (kneeling) HM3 Normand R. Myrick; HN Jason S. Bostic; HM3 Susan A. Siegler; HM3 Donald J. Burke; (standing) HN Jacqueline Burnett-Brown; AK2 Kimberly M. Normandin; Jeri L. Costello; and LTJG Debra Y. Williams, NC, USNR. Not pictured: AT1 Joseph W. Malinchalk, HM2 Bruce L. Gray, and HM3 Patricia E. MacKay.

Staff Pulse Beat

HM3 Mary A. Gross, USN, Emergency Room/Patient Transportation Ambulance Branch, reenlisted on 18 March. CAPT James A. Beil, USN, Head, Optometry Department, served as reenlistment officer. Our apologies for this delayed publication.

Ms Lily DeLeon, a Defense Finance and Accounting Service employee, working in our Fiscal Department, received a Letter of Commendation from LCDR Robert S. Wright, MSC, USN, Director for Resources, on 15 April. Ms DeLeon has taken a position with the Orlando Social Security Administration.

Awards Ceremony of 20 April

Mrs. Rachel E. Fields, Recruit Evaluation Unit, received her Career Service Award for fifteen years of service. The presentation was made by LT Kenneth M. Wilson, MSC, USNR, her department head.

HM3 Stephen C. Williams, USN, Nursing Service, received a Letter of Commendation from the Commanding Officer of Fleet Hospital Operations, Camp Pendleton, for his outstanding performance while attending Training Class 94-04. LT Lynne R. Kueck, NC, USNR, Professional Practice Officer for Nursing Services, made the presentation.

LCDR Todd A. Perla, MC, USNR, Family Practice Department, also received a Letter of Commendation from the Commanding Officer, Fleet Hospital Operations for his outstanding performance as medical provider for the Training Class 94-04. LCDR Stratton J. Shannon, MC, USNR, Head of Family Practice Department, made the presentation.

Another recipient for outstanding performance at Fleet Operations Training was SH2 John C. Ball, USN, Material Management Department. He received his Letter of Commendation from LCDR William B. Barber, MSC, USN, his department head.

LTJG Lisa M. Mortensen, NC, USNR, Recovery Room, also received a Letter of Commendation from the Commanding Officer, Fleet Hospital Operations, for her performance during the training of Class 94-04. The presentation was made by LCDR Cesar P. Cabalfin, NC, USNR, from the Operating Room.

HN Donald A. O'Cull, USN, Pediatric Department, received a Letter of Appreciation from the Commander, Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia for his assistance during the Command's 1993 Holiday Party. CDR Joseph P. VanLandingham, MSC, USN, Director for Administration, made the presentation.

HM3 Donald J. Burke, USN, Alcohol Rehabilitation Department, received his second Good Conduct Award. LTJG Debra Y. Williamns, NC, USNR, his Division Officer, made the presentation.

HM2 Diana M. H. Cummings, USN, Orthopedic Department, received her Third Good Conduct Award. CDR Charles H. Veurink, MC, USNR, her department head, made the presentation.

HM3 Andrew D. Washburn, USN, received a Letter of Appreciation on the occasion of his transfer from Patient Administration Department, to the Emergency Medicine Department. LTJG Mark W. Wertz, MSC, USNR, Head, Patient Administration Department, made the presentation.

At a ceremony in the Mental Health Department on 29 April, CAPT Raymond A. Sleszynski, MC, USNR, celebrated two events in one -- he was released from active duty on 30 April and retired from the Naval Reserve on 1 May. CDR James D. Talley, MC, USN, Acting Director for Medical Services, made the presentations.

Promotion day for LTJG Cheryl A. Lang-Bond, NC, USNR, Nursing Service, was on 25 April. Assisting with the new shoulder boards were CDR Lynette R. Eidem, NC, USN, Associate Director for Nursing Services, and CAPT Carol A. Peterson, NC, USN, Director for Nursing Services.

LTJG Lang-Bond's promotion led to the appointment of a new Bull Ensign. Bull Ensign Jimmy E. Francis, MSC, USNR, Management Information Department, happily received his appointment from CAPT Brant.

After receiving his appointment, he was at the mercy of the departing Bull. LTJG Lang-Bond dutifully presented each item from the ever-growing bag of Bull paraphernalia. "Oh, Bull ... Oh, Bull ..." (that's an excerpt from his speech!)

The first official duty of the new Bull Ensign on 25 April was to assist CDR Joseph P. VanLandingham, MSC, USN, in cutting a special cake. The Medical Service Corps officers sponsored the cake ceremony to honor CDR VanLandingham on his selection to CAPTAIN. The Bull Ensign really "horned" in!

HM2 Rodney A. Whidden, USN, Occupational Health and Preventive Medicine Department, reenlisted on 22 April. LT Gary A. Shaw, MSC, USN, Environmental Health Officer, served as reenlistment officer.

Happiness is .... new shoulder boards for LTJG Timothy J. Bingham, USN, Nursing Services. CDR Remigio C. Villegas, MC, USNR, Psychiatrist, administered the Oath of Office and assisted Mrs. Merri Joy Bingham with the shoulder boards.

Mrs. Sharon Kowalski, Secretary for the Director for Administration, received a Letter of Commendation from her boss, CDR Joseph P. VanLandingham, MSC, USN, on 5 May. Sharon has transferred to the Naval Air Warfare Center, Training Systems Division.

9 May was promotion day for LTJG Cynthia L. Judy, NC, USNR, Emergency Medicine Department. Assisting with her new shoulder boards were her grandfather, Mr. A. R. Carr, a retired Senior Chief Engineman, and her husband, Steven.

Award Ceremony of 11 May 1994

Mrs. Katherine A. Doyle, Urology Department, received an On-the-Spot Award for her assistance in follow-up cancer patients in the Tumor Registry. LCDR Brantley K. Weisner, MC, USNR, Head, Urology Department, presented the certificate.

LCDR Richard E. Beverly, MC, USNR, Emergency Medicine Department, received the Navy Commendation Medal for his meritorious service as Head, Emergency Department, U.S. Naval Hospital, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. CAPT Brant made the presentation.

LT Wayne H. Mitchell, NC, USNR, Staff Education and Training Department, received the Navy Commendation Medal for his meritorious service as Infection Control Officer, Naval Hospital, Jacksonville, FL. LT Elise J. Mammino, MSC, USN, his department head, made the presentation.

Mrs. Denise Stephens, Critical Care Unit, received all the accolades for being selected as Civilian of the Quarter, 1st Quarter, 1994. Denise received her Certificate and a Special Achievement award from LT Raymond J. Hood, NC, USN, Charge Nurse, CCU. Mr. John G. Sullivan presented a Hospital Plaque on behalf of the Civilian Welfare and Recreation Association.

MA1(AW/SW) Lee V. McKinney, USN, Security Division, received the Navy Achievement Medal for his superior performance as Command Investigator, Naval Training Center, Orlando. LT Fabio M. Martinez, MSC, USN, Head, Operating Management Department, made the presentation.

BULL ENSIGN Jimmy E. Francis MSC, USNR, Management Information Department, received a Letter of Commendation for his superb performance as Chairman of the 1994 Civilian Appreciation Day Committee. Ms Eileen B. Sturm, his department head, made the presentation.

HM3 Emmanuel C. Ananaba, USN, Business Office, received a Certificate of Commendation from the Commanding Officer, 3d Supply Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, Okinawa for his superior performance as Stock Control Warehouseman. CAPT Brant made the presentation.

HM2 Ammie L. Davis, USN, Physical Therapy Department, received a Letter of Commendation from the Commander, Naval Training Center, and a Letter of Appreciation from the Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Orlando, for her superior performance as Committee Member of the Black History Month Committee for "Festival in the Park" at NTC in February. LCDR Randal J. Halter, MSC, USN, her department head, presented the letters.

HA Jervia I. S. Fickens, USN, received a Letter of Appreciation for his outstanding performance while assigned to Outpatient Administration Division. HA Fickens has been transferred to Post Anesthesia Care Unit. LCDR Cesar P. Cabalfin, NC, USNR, Operating Room Department presented the letter.

HA Russell D. Johnson, USN, received a Letter of Appreciation for his outstanding performance while assigned as the Outprocessing and Discharge Clerk, Patient Administration Department. HA Russell has been reassigned to the OB/GYN Ward. LTJG Mark W. Wertz, MSC, USN, Head, Patient Administration Department, presented the letter.

Four staff members received Letters of Appreciation from Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Orlando for their support and assistance of Civilian Appreciation Day.

MS2 Glenn L. Ruiz, USN, Food Service Department received one for his impressive cake and many other items he made for the luncheon. LT Teodoro P. Cristobal, MSC, USN, Head, Food Service Department, made the presentation.

MS1 Francis J. Burke, USN, Food Service Department, received one for his enthusiasm and creativity in preparation for the special day. LT Cristobal presented the letter.

MS1 Tyrone A. Moore, USN, Food Service Department, received one for his personal touch in the preparation of the many items needed to make the ceremony memorable. LT Cristobal presented the letter.

HM1 Floyd R. Kirk, USN, ER/PT Transportation Ambulance Service, received one for his overall coordination of the Civilian Appreciation Day events.

Two Letters of Appreciation were awarded from the Student Commanding Officer, Fleet Hospital Operations Class 94-05, Camp Pendleton.

HM1 Jack A. Springs, USN, Outpatient Administration Division, helped organize and build the command's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Committee. LTJG Wertz presented the letter.

HM2 Michael A. Nichols, USN, Family Practice Department, was Leading Petty Officer of the Specialty Treatment area. LCDR Stratton J. Shannon, MC, USN, his department head, presented the letter.

What's so good that it's worth standing in line in the hot sun?

It was the annual Civilian Welfare and Recreation Association "Dip Luncheon" on 21 April in the Clements Room .... always a favorite, this one was no exception. The line remained long all through the lunch hour.

So-o-o-o-o-o many choices!

NHO's Connoisseurs of Food

All of the staff who attended the CWRA "Dip Luncheon," not only got to choose and eat "dips" of all the choice items, but they got to vote for their favorites. When the luncheon was over, the votes were tallied and the winners in three categories were announced: entree, salad, and dessert. That same afternoon, the winners were paged to the lobby and each winner received a basket of handy kitchen utensils. The winners (left to right): Barbara L. Vertley, General Surgery Department, whose Indian Curry Chicken was the favorite entree; Jeri M. Costello, Social Work Department, who made the favorite dessert - Banana/Cream Cheese Squares; and Sharon Kowalski, Administrative Directorate, whose pasta salad took the salad honors.

Bravo Zulu to Coordinated Care Department!

The Coordinated Care Department won the competition for the design of the "closure" T-shirt and in doing so, received a check for $50 from the Civilian Welfare and Recreation Association. The Department got together and decided it would be good to donate the money to a worthwhile cause. It was decided that the Florida State Office for Habitat for Humanity International would be the recipient. So on the 13th of April, Mr. Hank Collins, representing Habitat, came to the Coordinated Care Department to receive the check.

CDR Harold T. Brown, MSC, USN, head of the department, and Mr. Melvin Dickerson, presented the check to Mr. Collins. Habitat "builds houses in partnership with God's people in need."

Handcuffs were the Uniform of the Day

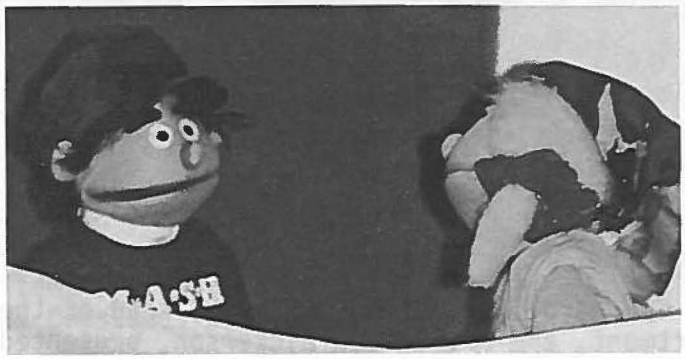
When it comes to raising money, some of NHO's staff members take the prize for creativity! On 6 May, the members of the Hospital Corps Picnic Committee held a "Jail Day." The "victims" were written up on charges by their subordinates, friends, and/or co-workers who then had to ante up a "sum" of money. When the hapless victims were cuffed and dragged before the Judge (HMC Leonhardt), he fined them according to their degree of guilt. Sometimes the fine totalled the amount of the original "ante." Anyway, the committee raised over $1,000.

Is that a look of consternation on this Lieutenant's face as HM3 Mamerto C. Endriga, USN, from Security put the cuffs on him? They should have watched LT James A. Clindaniel, MSC, USN -- he was very tricky in making his bail (rumor has it that he used a home-made counterfeit $2 bill!)

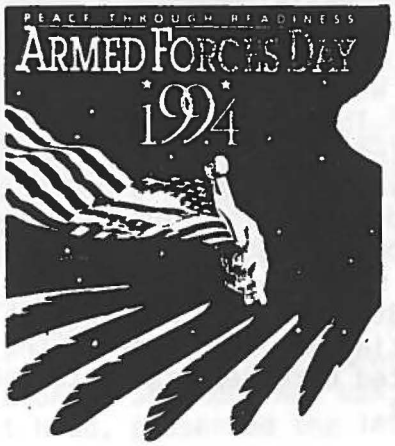
HMCS William Robles, USN, is escorted before the judge by MA1 Lee V. McKinney, USN, Security.

LT Fabio M. Martinez, MSC, USN, faces the Judge.

*Say, have you seen those characters from M*A*S*H running around the hospital?*



... some are puppets but some are human! We saw Klinger and Radar walking down the hall! Why are they here? We'll tell you next issue!



BRIDGING THE GAP

HMCM Richard L. Nelson, USN

Hospital Corps Birthday

On 17 June 1994, the Hospital Corps will celebrate its 96th birthday with a picnic and a cake cutting ceremony. Traditionally this is a time of celebration; however, we need to take a few moments to reflect back on the history of the Hospital Corps and to rededicate ourselves to the future of Navy Medicine.

The Hospital Corps was established on 17 June 1898 by an Act of Congress. During the past 96 years, Hospital Corpsmen have braved death to aid the wounded in combat. In some cases their casualty rates were higher than the troops they were supporting. This has led to the Hospital Corps being awarded the Presidential Citation after World War II. This was the first time that an entire organization was cited for heroism. A few examples of this heroism can be seen on our Medal of Honor Wall by the Physical Therapy Department. Take a few minutes and read some of the citations.

During the month of June all Hospital Corpsman need to rededicate themselves to providing the highest possible quality healthcare to Navy and Marine Corps men and women. This includes preparing ourselves both professionally and mentally in case we are needed for deployment in other parts of the world. We need to be prepared so we can follow in the footsteps of those that went before us. **Have a Happy Birthday!**

898 **1994**

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

CDR John L. Diaz, CHC, USN

What if . . .

Did you ever look at someone who had lots of talent and wonder why God didn't give you more gifts and abilities? Maybe you expressed this sentiment with a thought or prayer like this:

"God, if you had only given me more abilities ... just think what I could have done for You."

We may all have possessed the "what if" attitude from time to time. Maybe ...

What if God, during our first day in Heaven, would show us a video of ourselves on earth ...

What if that video showed a highly fruitful life, filled with effective pursuits that influenced many lives positively for eternity? What if I was to ask God why He didn't give me the gifts and abilities necessary for that kind of life. And then God said, "But I did. I did give you all the gifts, talents and abilities." And then God said, "Let me show you all the lives you touched."

So maybe the question should be changed from "What if" to "Where now." Where now do You want me to use my gifts and abilities you have given me.

By the way, where are you using the gifts and talents God has given you?

A thank you from a Shipmate!

"To my co-workers at Naval Hospital, Orlando -- thank you for the beautiful retirement ceremony and luncheon; it was overwhelming. You made me feel very special."

/s/ Marie Willis

TIP

CAPT R. H. Brant, MSC, USN

The mark of a professional

I think sometimes it must seem like we are confused about whether our closure activity is the overriding goal or if there are other functions that are paramount. We all have been subjected to tasks that seem somehow irrelevant in the face of the fact that we will close next year. I think there are a couple of points to remember that perhaps will help sort these things out. The first is that although we are closing, it isn't for another year. In the interim we have many people who legitimately look to us for their health care needs. Our immediate responsibility is to meet those needs to the best of our ability. We must also be mindful that our first priority is to provide for the active duty personnel we support, and in some instances that will mean that we may have to interrupt a service capability to retirees and family members other than active duty. Of equal importance is the action necessary to achieve our vision of maintaining a high degree of excellence in everything we do. There is no room in our efforts for "good enough." The feedback I continue to get is that we have consistently lived up to our motto, "Quality Care for Quality People." We must continue to take the extra steps that make the difference between adequate and excellent and sometimes that too seems to be counter to the goal of closing. It isn't and, in fact, marks us as a truly professional institution.

One of the marks of professionals is their attentiveness to each other's real and perceived needs. In that context I want to share with you an anecdote related to the "jailing" and "imposed punishment" in connection with the Hospital Corps picnic fundraiser. The Command Master Chief was arrested, tried, found guilty (what else?), and sentenced to one hour's duty at the information desk or payment of a fine, with payment to include at least one "two dollar" bill and to be paid that very afternoon. Later in his office, the Master Chief had exhausted his sources in trying to find a two dollar bill and was resigned to serving his time. An HN came in the office and handed the Master Chief a folder which contained a two dollar bill. The HN said he had been saving it for his child but felt that Master Chief should use it to pay his fine knowing it was in support of the Hospital Corps picnic. The Command Master Chief and I were both impressed with this young man's willingness to help, even at a sacrifice of something he wanted for his child. A professional looking out for another professional. The sequel is that the Command Master Chief served his time at the desk (where he needed a lot more help from many HN's).

I am thankful every day for being on this staff and I will always be proud of the things we do for each other and for those we serve. Keep up the good work.

Like this uniform?

... then follow the example of some of your shipmates. On 7 May, Columbia College held its Seventeenth Annual Commencement Ceremony at the Service School Command Auditorium. Congratulations are in order for the following staff members:

HM2 Richard E. Carroll, USN, received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration; HMC David Cubert, USN, received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Information Systems; and HM2 Genyi M. Ronayne, USN, received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice.

The following staff members receive Associate of Arts Degrees: HM3 Rudy R. Carrasco, USN; HM1 Vicki L. Fernandez, USN; HN Michael A. Gori, USN; HM1 Tim M. Grant, USN; HM2 Dana W. Harrington, USN; HM1 Robert L. Loomis, USN;HM2 Rachel L. Newborg, USN; HM3 Michael D. Olson, USN; HN Holly A. Scheid, USN; HM3 Suzanne J. Wood, USN.